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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/621,213	07/17/2003	Felix L. Sorkin	1101-157	1061

7590

06/30/2004

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EXAMINER

DUNWOODY, AARON M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3679

DATE MAILED: 06/30/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

10/621,213

Applicant(s)

SORKIN, FELIX L.

Examiner

Aaron M Dunwoody

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 April 2004.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-38 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 21-26 and 30-32 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 27-29 and 33-38 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 15 April 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Drawings*

The drawings were received on 4/15/2004. These drawings are approved.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 27-29 and 33-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by DE 3005047 A, Widmann.

In regards to claim 27, Widmann discloses a bonded monostrand post-tension system comprising:

an anchor (2) having a tubular extension extending therefrom;

a duct (7) having a longitudinal axis, the duct having an interior passageway formed therein;

a coupler (10) having a one end affixed to the tubular extension of the anchor and another end affixed to the duct; and

a single tendon (1) secured to the anchor and extending through the duct and the coupler, the coupler having an interior passageway extending between the ends thereof, the coupler having an inlet opening to the interior passageway of the coupler, the inlet positioned between the ends of the coupler.

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In regards to claim 28, Widmann discloses a grout tube affixed to the inlet, the grout tube extending outwardly of the coupler.

In regards to claim 29, Widmann discloses the inlet having a threaded connection formed therein, the grout tube having an end threadedly received within the threaded connection.

In regards to claim 33, Widmann discloses an anchor assembly for a bonded monostrand post-tension system comprising:

an anchor having a tubular extension extending from one end thereof; and  
a coupler having a first end affixed over the tubular extension in interference-fit relationship therewith, the coupler being axially aligned with a longitudinal axis of the tubular extension, the coupler having an interior passageway extending therethrough, the coupler having an internal thread formed at the first end, the anchor having an encapsulation extending thereover, the encapsulation forming the tubular extension, the internal thread engaged with the tubular extension.

In regards to claim 34, Widmann discloses the tubular extension being unthreaded, the internal thread self-tapping onto the tubular extension.

In regards to claim 35, Widmann discloses an anchor assembly for a bonded monostrand post-tension system comprising:

an anchor having a tubular extension extending from one end thereof; and  
a coupler having a first end affixed over the tubular extension in interference-fit relationship therewith, the coupler being axially aligned with a longitudinal axis of the tubular extension, the coupler having an interior

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passageway extending therethrough, the coupler having a second end formed opposite the first end, the second end having an internal thread formed therein.

In regards to claim 36, Widmann discloses the coupler having an inlet passage in communication with the interior passageway thereof the inlet passageway positioned between the first and second ends of the coupler, the inlet passageway having a connection area formed therein.

In regards to claim 37, Widmann discloses a grout tube having one end received within the connection of the inlet passageway, the grout tube extending outwardly therefrom.

In regards to claim 38, Widmann discloses the inlet passageway having a longitudinal axis extending transverse to the interior passageway of the coupler.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 21-26 and 30-32 are allowed.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-20 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is


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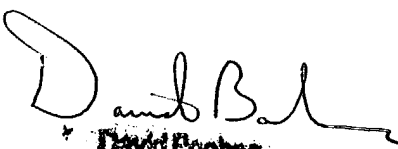
filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aaron M Dunwoody whose telephone number is 703-306-3436. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30 am - 4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel P Stodola can be reached on 703-306-5771. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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David Bohne  
Patent Examiner